

Philadelphia March 9. 1813.

Dear Brother & Sisters

Your letter of the 27th Jan^y was received in due time. It was highly gratifying to me to read so long a letter from you both - It is the first I have ever received from brother S. I did not intend to have delayed writing you an answer so long; but if ever my time was completely occupied, it has been for the three or four weeks past. When I left Mass., I thought you the Lectures would continue until March - you may be surprising me to return to N. England about this time, but Providence seems to be opening ~~me~~ a door for my stay in this city, a few months, at least - The opportunities for acquiring a knowledge of the profession of Medicine are far greater here, than in any other place with which I have any knowledge; & certainly I feel it to be an indispensable duty to pay considerable more attention to the study, & practice of the profession, before I can take upon myself the great responsibility which must lie upon every one who takes upon himself the charge of the lives & healths of his fellow men - But how much less must be the criminality of him who trifles with the sickness of this body, than of him who trifles with their souls - How much less must be the criminality of an unfaithful & unskilful Physician, than that of an unfaithful & unskilful Minister of Christ. I tremble often in view of the high responsibility which I have taken upon myself to preach the Gospel of Christ to perishing ^{sinners}. & sometimes when called upon, feel myself altogether unqualified to direct others in the path of duty -

But there is a consolation to the faithful ~~servants~~ servants, of him who has been pleased to entrust his word in earthen vessels, that the power is of God, who is able to bless the weakest means, & make them

effortful
to the conversion of sinners, & the edification of his
own children - It is not by might, nor by power
but by my spirit saith the Lord. If I derive
any consolation from preaching, it is from this
consideration - Let it be your prayer, that I may
always be faithful to declare the whole counsel
of God, & trust solely on him for a blessing. -

The Lectures which myself, & friend Richards
came here to attend, closed last week - Our friends
here were very desirous that we should ^{still} enjoy the in-
struction of the Professors which they were so good as
to offer us so long as we would stay, & they have obtained
for us a Mission in this City, & the vicinity, by which
we are enabled to support ourselves, & yet pursue
our studies without much interruption - Our Mission
embraces, amongst other places, the States Prison; where
there are about 300 Criminals, a hardened set of
wretches - The Albany House, where there are about 900 -
a picture of misery, ignorance & depravity - a small
number of them ^{only} are able to attend regular preaching.

Amongst this class however there are a few precious
souls - Those who are not able to attend preaching, we
visit at their bed sides, & endeavour to convince them
of their need of a Saviour, & point them to Christ, as
the way, the truth & the life. Our Mission is truly
like a Mission to the heathen - It is just such an
one as I should have chosen, & I trust will be every
profitable to us - We have also engaged to supply a
society in the City with preaching a few months - Whether
I shall spend the whole of the summer here is yet
uncertain - I have found here a number of very choice
friends to whom I have become very much attached.

There has been an increased seriousness in many of the
churches in the City, tho' nothing very remarkable -

If you see Sister & Brother Hunt do not fail to give my love to them - They are here from the poor man's & sister's. I will do with them I would with but it is just now uncertain whether I stay here long enough to receive a letter from them - I shall try to get a letter from you to put in my pocket.

eminent servant, (Dear ~~to~~ himself. Your society being lost a valuable member; & his surviving relatives a friend indeed; whose example, conversation, & prayers, can never be sufficiently estimated - But, ^{what} as your loss, is his gain - The Lord was pleased to call him to pass through the furnace of affliction, but ~~it~~ was only, that he might purify him, & make the power of his grace more conspicuous - I trust his memory will live in the hearts of all the friends of God, who knew him - ~~While~~ he rests from his labours, he still calls upon us to be followers of him, as far as he was of Christ - I am happy to hear that your weekly meeting is still continued - Be not discouraged, tho' your numbers is small - Is not the Lord on your side? Then take courage. What if those, who ought to be your leaders & instructors, refuse to stretch your hands in this good work; you need not give

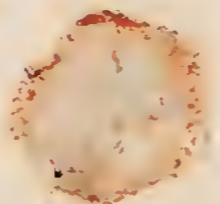
Tho' the powers of earth, & Hell, were leagued against you, while the promises of God stand, ^{& you trust in them} they cannot hurt you - In due time - in the Lord's time, you shall reap if you faint not - If sinners are not immediately converted, yet your own souls will be edified & built up - I trust you will ^{not} forget to make the care of sinners, who will not pray for themselves, the burden of your prayers - Invite them to your

meeting, & intimate them often to come - The revival of religion in Elizabeth, Town & Newark, N. Jersey, I believe is going on, & is spreading into the neighbouring towns. At Princeton College there is a very pleasing work - Of the Missionaries. The Lord is with them, & will establish them in spite of all opposition - probably at Madagascar - I do not - and - I have written this in great hurry - had only time to look my pen at a late hour, & the watch is now calling I believe for one o'clock - My best love to Parents, Brothers & Sisters - May this be considered as written to all - My respects to all inquiring - write soon as I wish much to hear from Manthos - Is there a Post Office in Sherburne? Will Sister Lucy get a letter if I write her & say yours to
E. W. Horn

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Mrs. Solomon Weeks.
Marlborough
Middlesex County
Mass.



(Faint handwritten marks or scribbles on the left flap of the letter.)